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## REVIEWS

**Ilse Leskien, Schuld and other Stories.** Edited, with Notes, Vocabulary, Exercises, and an Appendix by Bayard Quincy Morgan. Oxford University Press, 1915. 12mo., iv + 154, pp. 40c.

We have in this volume four delightful stories. I question, however, whether the average student will appreciate the subtle psychological suggestion of Hansen? The collection is especially adapted for use as first reading in Second Year College classes. The exercises illustrate a review of elementary grammar, and are based on "the early part of the first story only." In several instances they fail to agree with the designated passages of text.

The Appendix, containing Helps to Translation, is quite useful. Not only is some very helpful advice offered in it, but its use is facilitated by constant specific reference thereto in the notes and vocabulary.

The proof is clean. P. 2, l. 16, read *fiel*; Voc., read *Zaun*.

The method is sound, and the editing well done.

Hiram College.

L. E. CANNON.

**Carl Schlenker.** Bulletin for teachers of German. The University of Minnesota. Current Problems, Number 8. August, 1916. 8vo., vi + 41 pp. 25c.

The discussion of Methods is inadequate but this is partly due to the limited compass of the bulletin. It might at least have been said that the purely conversational method is little used by reputable pedagogues, except in grade work where the best school systems in the United States make large use of it.

The sane attitude towards the direct method is especially to be commended. We have been working for years to further the direct method but we know its dangers in the hands of inadequately prepared teachers.

The bibliography does not, of course, aim at completeness. However, under the heading of Gouin Method, e. g. the best known American publication is omitted, viz. Handschin's *German Series for Beginners*, Series Publishing Co., Oxford, Ohio.

The attitude towards phonetics is also to be warmly endorsed, as well as the hints on speaking German.

Such titles of books as those on Germany written by foreigners like Collier, Singleton *et al.* might well be accompanied by an evaluating remark. The guileless reader should e. g. be cautioned against such a book as Collier's *Germany and the Germans*.

The remarks on the self-improvement of the teacher are excellent.

The most serious defect of the Bulletin is perhaps its inaccuracy in the spelling of proper names. Thus we find *Douden* (pp. 10 and 15) for *Duden*;

Boyeson (pp. 28 and 29) for *Boyesen*; Hoetzel (p. 19) for *Hoetzel*; Nevison (p. 29) for *Nevinson*; Reclames (p. 35) for *Reclams*; Beilschowski (p. 29) for *Bielschowsky*; *Vel(l)hagen und Klassing* (pp. 18 and 20) for *Velhagen und Klasing*.

Miami University.

C. H. HANDSCHIN.

**Studies in German Words and their Uses** by F. E. Hastings.

D. C. Heath and Co., 1911. iv + 259 pp. \$1.00.

There has long been need of a book, giving the modern use of every-day words and phrases in German. The book mentioned above aims to fill this need.

The index refers to over 1700 German and English words and phrases, all of which are carefully explained and illustrated by examples. The words are, on the whole, well selected. They are arranged for the most part alphabetically by stems, derivatives being given out of the alphabetic order directly under the stems. This seems, taking it all in all, the most satisfactory arrangement, though it requires a great many cross-references to synonyms and words of similar meaning.

It is a rather idle task to quarrel with the author about her omissions, though greater attention to synonymy would no doubt have been welcomed by users of the book. One looks in vain for such fundamental distinctions as those between *Aufgabe* and *Stunde*, *dennoch* and *jedoch*, *aufhören* and *stehen bleiben*, *erinnern*, *behalten* and *sich merken*, etc. One would like to see *er hat ihm nicht gefolgt* by the side of *er ist ihm nicht gefolgt* (p. 17); under *bitten* attention might have been called to the fact that the English often uses *pray*, where *beten* is inadmissible (p. 27); under *erfahren* the student should have been warned against using *lernen* (p. 49); a note should have told that *Umgebung* and *Umgegend* occur in the singular only (p. 71 and 73); *er will ein Lehrer sein* should have been contrasted with *er will Lehrer werden* (p. 129); attention should have been called to *Schicksal* being subjective or objective fate, *Geschick* practically always the latter (p. 160); one does say *die Bewohner einer Stadt*, but *die Stadt hat 10000 Einwohner* (p. 224). But, of course, the collection is by no means intended to be exhaustive, and even a book of five times the size of the present would not have covered every case. This does not mean that a larger book would not serve our purpose better. There is undoubtedly still room for a work of the dimensions of Krüger's monumental tome *Wortgebrauch und Synonymik der Englischen Sprache*<sup>1</sup> which satisfies so admirably the needs of the German student in his study of English. Still, the author and the publishers deserve considerable credit for having given a practical basis for a hitherto much neglected branch of modern language study.

The book is unusually free from positive errors, only two misprints having been noted: *Baiern* for *Bayern* (p. 135) and *auf Deutsch* for *auf deutsch* (p. 40). There are, however, a number of un-German, unidiomatic or at least stilted and wooden locutions, which a German of to-day would express in a different way. Such are, for example:

<sup>1</sup>Dresden und Leipzig 1910.<sup>2</sup>